

February 24, 2014

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The Honorable Carlo Leone
The Honorable Jack Hennessy
Co-Chairs
Veterans' Affairs Committee
Room 509A, Capitol
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Senator Leone and Representative Hennessy:

My name is Kent Carlson and I was Co-Chair of the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) Task Force, which submitted its report to your Committee on January 1. Over the course of five months, the Task Force conducted an extensive review of Connecticut laws and regulations. We also examined military credentialing practices across all fifty states. As outlined in our report, the Task Force found that Connecticut should amend its military credentialing practices to become a national leader in promoting veterans employment.

I write to you today to express my support of S.B. 212, An Act Concerning Implementation of the Recommendations of the Military Occupational Specialty Task Force. As a veteran myself, I stand behind our veterans, our military spouses, and the state of Connecticut. I believe this bill is an important and vital measure toward reducing veterans' and military spouses' chronic underemployment. Veterans and their families bring stellar technical training and education with them to our state, and this bill will help to harness their experience to strengthen Connecticut's economy. I also support S.B. 212 as a measure that demonstrates our state's commitment to those who have already committed themselves to public service.

I am grateful to the Veterans' Affairs Committee for proposing the bill and raising awareness of the particular barriers to employment and education that continue to face veterans and military spouses in Connecticut. I urge the Committee and the General Assembly to vote in favor of S.B. 212.

Sincerely,

Kent Carlson